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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,559	06/29/2001	Jong Sang Baek	8733.448.00	5057
30827	7590	12/14/2005	EXAMINER	
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP			BECK, ALEXANDER S	
1900 K STREET, NW			ART UNIT	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006			PAPER NUMBER	
			2675	

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/893,559

Applicant(s)

BAEK ET AL

Examiner

Alexander S. Beck

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 12-35 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Acknowledgement is made of the amendment filed by the Applicant on 01/07/2005, in which: the drawings of the instant application were amended; and Claims 1-11 were cancelled. **Claims 12-35** are currently pending in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/893,559, and an Office Action on the merits follows.

Drawings

2. The objection to the drawings, set forth in paragraph 1 of the previous Office Action (i.e., the non-final Office Action mailed on 09/08/2004), is withdrawn in light of the Applicant's amendment to FIG. 4.

The amendment to the drawings is acknowledged and approved by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

3. The objection to Claims 1-11, set forth in paragraph 2 of the previous Office Action, is withdrawn in light of the Applicant's cancellation of Claims 1-11.

Election/Restrictions

4. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
- I. **Claims 12-17**, drawn to receiving/processing a signal with a period indicative of a number of lines in a display and determining whether the period is less than, greater than, or less than and greater than a reference period, classified in class 345, subclass 99.

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- II. **Claims 18-23**, drawn to receiving/processing a vertical synchronization signal and determining the presence of an error, classified in class 345, subclass 99.
- III. **Claims 24-29**, drawn to receiving/processing a data enable signal and determining the presence an error, classified in class 345, subclass 99.
- IV. **Claims 30-35**, drawn to and method/apparatus for driving a liquid crystal display by supporting various frequency ranges, classified in class 345, subclass 212.

5. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

6. Inventions I, II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case inventions I, II and III have separate utility, as evidenced by the Applicant's claiming of each subcombination in independent claims, thus not requiring the presence of the other two subcombinations to yield a utility.

7. Inventions IV and I-III are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed, as evidenced by the Applicant's claiming of each subcombination in independent claims, thus not requiring the presence of the other two subcombinations to yield a patentable invention. In the instant case, the subcombination has utility by itself, as evidenced by the Applicant's claiming of each subcombination in independent claims.

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8. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, and a separate search is required for each of inventions I, II and III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Alexander S. Beck** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7765**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Sumati Lefkowitz** can be reached on **(571) 272-3638**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

asb


SUMATI LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER